MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A shingle comprising

a shingle neck, and a shingle body,

characterized in that

a raised engagement and guide element (5) is disposed at [[the]] a bottom side of [[the]] a region of the shingle body (2) disposed remote relative to the shingle neck, and

the raised engagement and guide element (5) exhibits such a raised engagement guide element (5) in a lower region of the shingle body (2), wherein the raised engagement and guide element (5) exhibits a female mold like undercut zone (6) in the direction of the body and disposed remote from the shingle neck, wherein correspondingly dimensioned male mold like undercut zones (7) are disposed at two shingle shoulders (4).

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 1,

characterized in that the width of two shingle shoulders (4) corresponds in each case to about one half of the width of the raised engagement and guide element (5).

4. (previously presented)The shingle according to claim 1, wherein the shingle is a roof shingle.

5. (new) A shingle comprising

a shingle neck;

a shingle body;

a first shingle shoulder disposed on a first side between the shingle neck and the shingle body;

a first male undercut zone projecting on a top side of the first shoulder;

a second shingle shoulder (4) disposed on a second side between the shingle neck and the shingle body;

a second male undercut zone projecting on a top side of the second shoulder;

a raised engagement and guide element disposed on a wall facing side of the shingle body and in a lower region of the shingle body and disposed remote from the shindle neck forming a female mold like undercut zone (6) and wherein the first male undercut zone matches the shape of the part of the raised engagement and guide element on the second side for engaging the first male undercut zone with a part of another raised engagement and guide element on another second side and wherein the second male undercut zone matches the shape of the part of the raised engagement and guide element on the first side for engaging the second male undercut zone with a part of another raised engagement and guide element on another first side.

6. (new) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the shingle neck and the shingle body are disposed in one plane, and wherein the raised engagement and guide element projects from the shingle body by a height level corresponding to a thickness of the shingle body.

7. (new) The shingle according to claim 5,

wherein

the raised engagement and guide element (5) is dsposed in the lower region of the shingle body (2), wherein the raised engagement and guide element

(5) exhibits a female mold like undercut zone (6) open on a downward side and extending horizontally along the shingle body and having a deepest point adjacent to the shingle body.

8. (new) The shingle according to claim 5,
wherein a horizontal extension of the first shingle shoulder (4) corresponds to about one half of a horizontal extension of the raised engagement and guide element (5); and
wherein a horizontal extension of the second shingle shoulder (4) corresponds to about one half of a horizontal extension of the raised engagement and guide element (5).

9. (new) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the shingle is a roof shingle.

10. (new) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the shingle is a house shingle.

11. (new) The shingle according to claim 5,
wherein the .first male undercut zone has an edge disposed in a plane of an outside of the shingle;
wherein the second male undercut zone has an edge disposed in a plane of an outside of the shingle; and
wherein the raised engagement and guide element has a deepest bottom groove adjacent to a plane on the inner surface of the shingle body.

12. (new) The shingle according to claim 5 wherein the raised engagement and guide element has a shape of a horizontally extending overhang.

13. (new) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the raised engagement and gude element is projecting from an inner side face of the shingle body.

14. (new) The shingle a ccording to claim 5,

wherein an edge of the shingle body on the first side is straight and nearly vertical; and

wherein an edge of the shingle body on the second side is straight and disposed substantially parallel to the edge of the shingle body on the first side; and

wherein the raised engagement and guide element is disposed in a middle between the edge of the shingle body on the first side and the edge of the shingle body on the second side.

15. (new) The shingle body according to claim 14,

wherein a first edge on the first side of the neck of the shingle is disposed straight and parallel to the edge of the shingle body on the first side;

wherein a second edge on the second side of the neck of the shingle is disposed straight and parallel to the edge of the shingle body on the second side;

wherein the edge of the shingle body on the first side is longer than the first edge on the first side of the neck of the shingle; and.

wherein the edge of the shingle body on the second side is longer than the second edge on the second side of the neck of the shingle.

16. (new) The shingle body according to claim 5, wherein the neck of the shingle and the body of the shingle are located in one geometric plane.

17. (new) The shingle body according to claim 5 wherein a depth of the projection of the raised engagement and guide element is substantially equal to a thickness of the shingle body.

18. (new) The shingle body according to claim 5 wherein the engagement and guide element is formed like a projection from the body of the shingle, wherein an end face of the engagement and guide element forms a plane disposed parallel to a plane of the body of the shingle; and wherein the projection extends at an angle from the body of the shingle;

wherein an angle of the first male mold like undercut zone (7) relative to the plane of the body of the shingle matches the angle of the projection; and

wherein an angle of the second male mold like undercut zone (7) relative to the plane of the body of the shingle matches the angle of the projection.